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Chairwoman
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TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON ANTI-BIAS TASK FORCE

159 Pantigo Road
East Hampton, New York 11937



Sylvia Overby
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November 28, 2016

Dear Editor:

As the press release states, the East Hampton Town Anti-Bias Task Force is unsettled and disappointed by the KKK and white supremacists flyers that have been distributed recently in the Town of East Hampton. The committee rejects the hate and supports education, understanding, and community awareness for all those that live in East Hampton and beyond.

In August of this year, the committee issued a press release (attached) in an effort to address concerns of hate rhetoric that appeared to be on the rise nationally. The latest incidents have prompted the ABTF to reinforce its mission and remind our community that the committee continues to meet and work on issues and education related to creating a bias-free community. New members are welcome and invited to attend our next meeting on December 7th at 4:00 PM in the main meeting room of Town Hall.

Thank you for your time and attention,

Sylvia Overby
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TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON ANTI-BIAS TASK FORCE RESPONSE TO KKK AND WHITE SUPREMACISTS FLYERS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: November 28, 2016

The East Hampton Town Anti-Bias Task Force finds the recent flyers that have been distributed in Montauk and seen on the train at the LIRR station in Amagansett by white supremacist groups unsettling and disappointing. Those that have the time and inclination for spreading such nonsense would be better served by a close examination of what it means to create a free and prosperous community. Dividing a society is counterproductive. America was and is built on immigration. We are grateful for the leaders of our community who rise above division.

In August of this year, the ABTF issued a press release to the local newspapers and news outlets explaining the mission of our committee hoping to address concerns of hate rhetoric that appeared to be on the rise nationally. This latest incident sponsored by the KKK and a new group White New York has caused alarm and fear. The ABTF rejects the hate and supports education, understanding, and community awareness for all those that live in East Hampton and beyond.

Please join us for our next meeting on December 7th at 4pm in the main meeting room of Town Hall.



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August 11, 2016

Dear Editor

As the press release states, the East Hampton Town Anti-Bias Task Force began in 1993. The Task Force is issuing this release to remind our community that the ABTF continues to hold meetings and work on issues and education related to creating a bias-free community.

We are particularly concerned about the national rise of hate motivated rhetoric in our diverse and multicultural society. Promoting understanding of social problems creates a cohesive community where positive relationships result in breaking down barriers based on prejudice.

The East Hampton Town Anti-Bias Task Force welcomes new members and looks forward to continuing our work in establishing a positive and welcoming community.

Thank you for your time and attention,

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TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON ANTI-BIAS TASK FORCE WORKING TOGETHER TOWARD A BIAS-FREE COMMUNITY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: August 11, 2016

In 1993, recognizing the destructive effects of prejudice and intolerance, the East Hampton Town Board created the East Hampton Anti-Bias Task Force (ABTF). Today, as then, the goal of the ABTF is to promote diversity, unity, and understanding in our Town, working together toward building a bias-free community. Its mission is to address issues of bias, prejudice, and discrimination against persons because of their race, ethnicity, religion, age, disability, gender, sexual orientation, economic disparity, or familial status.

Composed of concerned citizens appointed annually by the Town Board, it seeks to address instances and issues of discrimination, prejudice, and intolerance through education and raising community awareness. It serves as a community resource to which people can turn when there is an alleged bias-related incident or issue, advocating for victims and referring them to appropriate agencies. In partnership with other organizations and groups, the ABTF organizes activities and forums to foster good-will and understanding in our community; works with local schools, law enforcement, and elected officials; joins with community leaders to promote equality of opportunity; supports legislative initiatives to discourage prejudicial conduct; and fosters an appreciation of diverse cultures and tradition through educational programs.

Intolerance against persons because of their ethnicity, religion, age, disabilities, gender, sexual orientation, economic disparity, or familial status tears at the fabric of society and community. All incidents of bias are wrong and many are against the law. Acts of aggression based on prejudice alienate individuals and groups, robbing us of the sense of security and well-being we seek for ourselves and our families as we live, work, play and worship in our community.

Help to make our Town a safe and bias-free community for all within our boundaries by calling and leaving a message at 631-998-1010 ext.2133 or on e-mail at antibiasehny@gmail.com or visit our regular Task Force meetings on the second Wednesday of each month at 4 P.M. in Town Hall. The Township of East Hampton includes the hamlets of Montauk, Amagansett, Springs, Wainscott, East Hampton Village, and the East Hampton part of Sag Harbor.